

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 /098 W

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R 250615Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 582

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 3008

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, EINV, CD

SUBJ: CONOCO ANNOUNCES NEW OIL FIND

REFS: STATE 274908 (NOTAL); NDJAMENA 2766

1. CONOCO ANNOUNCED PUBLICLY NEW OIL STRIKE AT SEDIGI NUMBER 1 NOV 22 ABOUT WHICH EMB INFORMED PRIVATELY LAST MONTH (NDJAMENA REFTEL). DEPTH 900 FEET. MIXTURE CONDENSED GAS AND CRUDE. CRUDE YIELD 155 TO 3207 BARRELS PER DAY. CONSIDERABLE QUANTITIES GAS. LAB TESTS TO DETERMINE COMMERCIAL VIABILITY. NEW STRIUE IN THE NORTH OF LAKE CHAD, KANTARI PREFECTURE.

2. CHARGE SAW CONOCO/CHAD PRESIDENT VOEGELI SOCIALLY BY CHANCE NOV 22, AFTER RADIO PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT ABOVE. VOEGELI VOLUNTEERED HE AWARE FORMIN KAMOUGUE APPROACH TO DEPARTMENT WITH WHICH HE UNHAPPY AS HE CONCERNED HIS CONOCO PRINCIPALS MAY INTERPRET APPROACH AS INDICATING THAT GOC MAY BE HAVING DOUBTS REGARDING RELIABILITY CONOCO. HE EXPECTS CALL ON KAMOUGUE FOR GENERAL BRIEFING SOON. VOEGELI ALSO SAID THAT HE NOW EXPECTED MOVE RIG FROM NIGER TO SOUTHERN CHAD AT COMPLETION NIGER WELL EVEN THOUGH SEISMIC EXPLORATIONS NOT AS COMPLETE AS HE WOULD LIKE, WITH
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THE PROSPECT OF RETURNING TO NORTHERN KANEM REGION AFTER THAT

TO EXPLORE EXTENT MOST RECENT FIND. WHEN ASKED BY THIRD PARTY
IF CONOCO COULD NOT BUILD MALL REFINERY ON BASIS PRESENT
DISCOVERIES, VOEGELI STATED CONOCO WOULD BE HAPPY TO DO ST IF IT
DETERMINES FINDS COMMERCIALY FEASIBLE WHICH IT HAS NOT YET
DETERMINED. HE SAID, IN APPARENT CONTRADICTION TO DEPTTEL INFO,
THAT SULPHUR CONTENT SOUTHERN FIND NOT PROBLEM, BUT THAT CRUDE
WAS TOO HEAVY.

3. COMMENT: VOEGELI'S STOCK-IN-TRADE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHMENT
MUTUAL TRUST WITH FORMER PRESFRENT TOMBALBAYE AND NOW, HE HOPES,
WITH GEN MALLOUM. IN BOTH PAST AND PRESENT GOVERNMENTS HE HAS
DEALT ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY WITH PRESIDENTS. IT QUITE POSSIBLE
THAT KAMOUGUE NOT AS WELL INFORMED AS HE SHOULD BE, AND/OR
THAT PLEA TO DEPARTMENT ON CONOCO SIMPLY ONE ITEM ON GOC CHECK
LIST WHICH HE THOUGHT IT WOULD DO NO HARM TO MENTION.DWYER

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